

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 1-9, 11-19, 21-29, and 31 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 11, 21, and 31 have been amended; claims 10, 20, and 30 have been canceled without prejudice.

Specification Amendment

In the specification, on page 1, a cross reference to the parent application has been added.

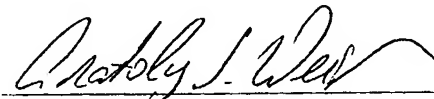
Conclusion

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested from the Examiner. To discuss any matter pertaining to the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (858) 720-9431. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address indicated below.

Dated: 2/16/2004

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Respectfully submitted,



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